

When I was a Lad

(HMS Pinafore)

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When [G] I was a lad I [Bm] served a term
As [C] office boy to an A[D]ttorney's firm
I [G] cleaned the windows and I [Bm] swept the floor
And I [C] polished up the handle of the [D] big front door
(He [C] polished up the handle of the [D] big front door)

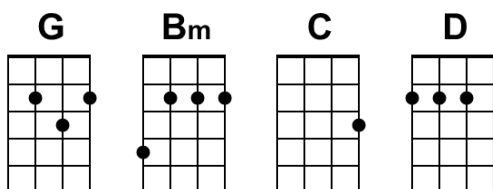
I [G] polished up that handle so carefullee
That [C] now I am the [D] Ruler of the [G] Queen's Navee
(He [G] polished up that handle so carefully,
That [C] now he is the [D] Ruler of the [G] Queen's Navee)

As [G] office boy I [Bm] made such a mark
That they [C] gave me the post of a [D] junior clerk
I [G] served the writs with a [Bm] smile so bland
And I [C] copied all the letters in a [D] big round hand
(He [C] copied all the letters in a [D] big round hand)

I [G] copied all the letters in a hand so free
That [C] now I am the [D] Ruler of the [G] Queen's Navee
(He [G] copied all the letters in a hand so free
That [C] now he is the [D] Ruler of the [G] Queen's Navee)

In [G] serving writs I [Bm] made such a name
That an [C] articulated clerk I [D] soon became
I [G] wore clean collars and a [Bm] brand-new suit
For the [C] pass examination at the [D] Institute
(For the [C] pass examination at the [D] Institute)

That [G] pass examination did so well for me
That [C] now I am the [D] Ruler of the [G] Queen's Navee
(That [G] pass examination did so well for he
That [C] now he is the [D] Ruler of the [G] Queen's Navee)



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Of [G] legal knowledge I a[Bm]cquired such a grip
That they [C] took me into the [D] partnership
And that [G] junior partner[Bm]ship, I ween
Was the [C] only ship that I [D] ever had seen
(Was the [C] only ship that he [D] ever had seen)

But that [G] kind of ship so suited me
That [C] now I am the [D] Ruler of the [G] Queen's Navee
*(But that [G] kind of ship so suited he
That [C] now he is the [D] ruler of the [G] Queen's Navee)*

I [G] grew so rich that [Bm] I was sent
By a [C] pocket borough into [D] Parliament
I [G] always voted at my [Bm] party's call
And I [C] never thought of thinking for my[D]self at all
(He [C] never thought of thinking for him[D]self at all)

I [G] thought so little, they rewarded me
By [C] making me the [D] Ruler of the [G] Queen's Navee
*(He [G] thought so little, they rewarded he
By [C] making him the [D] Ruler of the [G] Queen's Navee)*

Now [G] landsmen all, who[Bm]ever you may be
If you [C] want to rise to the [D] top of the tree
If your [G] soul isn't fettered to an [Bm] office stool
Be [C] careful to be guided by this [D] golden rule
(Be [C] careful to be guided by this [D] golden rule)

Stick [G] close to your desks and never go to sea
And [C] you all may be [D] rulers of the [G] Queen's Navee
*(Stick [G] close to your desks and never go to sea,
And [C] you all may be [D] rulers of the [G] Queen's Navee)*

Outro:

[G]/// [Bm]/// [C]/// [D]///
[G]/// [Bm]/// [C]// [D]// [G]///

